17

FULL METAL PA[illegible]NA

With the unexpected arriva[illegible] student Sousuke Sagara to Jindai High School, honor[illegible]'s tranquil existence is about to be turned upsi[illegible] Chidori, the naive, military-minded Sagara is[illegible] MITHRIL assigned to protect her, and the poten[illegible]ly secrets, from those who wish to exploit her kn[illegible]



フルメタルパニック!Σ
FULL METAL PANIC! SIGMA

STORY SHOUJI GATOU　COMIC HIROSH[illegible]IEDA　ORI[illegible]CHA[illegible]ER DESIGN SH[illegible]OUJI

Black Technology. A forbidden knowledge born into a sel[illegible] thereby made capable o[illegible]cing exotic weaponry that could drastically alter the balance of power o[illegible]o halt the proliferation o[illegible]rifying power, a secret military organization armed with the [illegible]ng-edge technology-MITHR[illegible]ds as the guardians of peace in a chaotic era still dominated by th[illegible] of the ongoing Cold War.

原作 賀東招二　作画 上田 宏　キャラクター原案 四季童子

DRAGON COMICS AGE

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1-17

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フルメタルパニック!Σ シグマ 17

原作 賀東招二
作画 上田 宏
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〈アマルガム〉の管理者・ミスタHgの口から語られる、世界の真実の形。〈アマルガム〉と〈ミスリル〉の、複雑で抜き差しならない関係。そんな中、レナードの思惑は静かに、しかし激しくも世界へ侵食を始める。彼の物語じみた目的を止めにいくのか? それとも、現実の危機であるアフガンの核を抑えにいくのか――。
テッサが下した選択は、ソースケとテッサの2人だけでレナードを止める、というものだった。最終決戦の幕が、いよいよ上がる!!

FULL METAL PANIC! SIGMA 17

With the unexpected arrival of mysterious transfer student Sousuke Sagara to Jindai High School, honor student Kaname Chidori's tranquil existence is about to be turned upside down. Unbeknownst to Chidori, the naive, military-minded Sagara is actually an operative with MITHRIL assigned to protect her, and the potent secrets she unknowingly carries, from those who wish to exploit her knowledge for military gain.



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COMIC
GATOU
HIROSHI UEDA

ORIGINAL CHARACTER DESIGN
SHIKIDOUJI



フルメタ…ック!シ…
FULL METAL…A



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STORY
SHOUJI GATOU

C…
…EDA

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FULL METAL PANIC!

SIGMA 17

With the unexpected arrival of mysterious transfer student Sousuke Sagara to Jindai High School, junior student Kaname Chidori's tranquil existence is about to be turned upside down. Unbeknownst to Chidori, the active, military-minded Sagara is actually an operative with MITHRIL, assigned to protect her, and the potent secrets she unknowingly carries, from those who wish to exploit her knowledge for military gain.

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Black Technology: A forbidden knowledge born into a select few, thereby enabling the possessor of this knowledge to drastically alter the balance of power on Earth. To halt the proliferation of this terrifying power, a secret military organization armed with the latest cutting-edge technology—MITHRIL—stands as the guardians of peace in a chaotic era still dominated by the hostilities of the ongoing Cold War.

MISSION 072 FATHER & SON

SMALL VILLAGE ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF LONDON. ONE HOUR DRIVE NORTH OF HELENFORD

UHHH...

UHHH...

MY SUBORDINATE PERFORMED EMERGENCY TREATMENT FOR YOUR WOUND.

YOU'RE ...

AHHH...

LONG TIME NO SEE, SIR MALLORY.

SO THIS WAS JUST PART OF YOUR PLAN.

YES, YOUR FATHER HAS INFORMATION THAT WE NEED.

I'VE BEEN MONITORING YOUR MOVEMENTS FOR THE PAST TWO MONTHS.

THANKS TO YOU, I'VE MANAGED TO LOCATE YOUR FATHER'S HIDEOUT.

Looks like...

That attack wasn't part of my father's plan...

MR. HG.

I WOULD LIKE YOU TO HAND OVER THE *LIST*.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT...?

MER-CURY?

THE LIST?

THAT, IS MR. HG.

SOMEONE THAT NEVER INTERFERES WITH THE DECISIONS AND ONLY HAS AUTHORITY OVER THE GENERAL MANAGEMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION.

AMALGAM HAS AN ADMINISTRATOR.

UNTIL RECENTLY, NO ONE ACTUALLY KNEW WHO HG WAS...

AND... THAT IS MY FATHER?

...YES, WHAT THAT RUSSIAN SAYS IS CORRECT...

I AM THE ADMINISTRATOR OF AMALGAM,

MR. HG.

IT IS INEVITABLE, FOR SOMEONE

WHO IS DESTINED TO TAKE OVER THE MALLORY FAMILY.

THAT TERRORIST ORGANIZATION WHICH INSTIGATES WARS JUST FOR PROFIT? WHY ME...!?

THOUGH MY ORIGINAL PLAN WAS FOR YOU TO EVENTUALLY SUCCEED ME...

...WHAT...

MY GRAND-FATHER WAS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL FIVE FOUNDING MEMBERS

THAT CREATED AMALGAM.

IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY

FOR THOSE BELONGING TO THE MALLORY FAMILY TO ACCEPT, AND PRESERVE AMALGAM'S IDEALS.

AN AMERICAN OIL MAGNATE, A RUSSIAN SCIENTIST, A FORMER GERMAN SS OFFICER, A JAPANESE TRADER

AND MY FATHER, WHO WAS A PROPERTY TYCOON AS WELL AS AN EXPERT IN CRYPTO-GRAPHY.

THERE WERE MANY FROM BOTH THE EAST AND WEST, THAT WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE INEVITABLE COLD WAR BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE SOVIETS.

AROUND THAT TIME, MY GRANDFATHER, WHO WAS WORKING IN THE INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, DECIDED TO CREATE THIS ORGANIZATION WITH FOUR OTHER MEMBERS.

IF IT'S FROM YOUR GRANDFATHER'S GENERATION... THIS ORGANIZA-TION IS MUCH OLDER THAN I THOUGHT.

YES.

IT WAS CREATED DURING THE SUMMER OF 1948, AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR.

THAT IS WHY THAT ORGANIZA-TION

WAS NAMED AS AMALGAM.

THESE INDIVIDUALS, WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN INCOMPATIBLE, WERE JOINED TOGETHER BY THE CATALYTIC POWER OF THEIR SHARED DESIRE FOR THE FUTURE OF HUMANITY.

THAT VERY ORGANIZATION WITH SUCH NOBLE IDEAL HAD OVER TIME,

BECOME NOTHING MORE THAN A TERRORIST GROUP.

WHAT A DISGRACE IT IS...

TO CLAIM IT WAS FOR THE "FUTURE OF HUMANITY".

AFTER TWENTY YEARS, IT HAD ALREADY TURNED INTO A MASSIVE ORGANIZATION.

THE ORIGINAL FOUNDING MEMBERS GRADUALLY RETIRED AFTER BEING REPLACED BY THEIR SUCCESSORS.

YES,

THAT WAR HAD DRAGGED ON BECAUSE OF AMALGAM'S INFLUENCES.

IF THE WAR HAD ENDED QUICKLY, MANY PEOPLE WOULD HAVE BEEN DISADVANTAGED.

IS THAT AROUND THE TIME OF THE VIETNAM WAR?

AFTER THIRTY YEARS OF THAT, NONE OF THE EXISTING MEMBERS HAVE ANY IDEA ABOUT THE ORIGINAL IDEALS.

THEY ARE MERELY USING IT AS A TOOL FOR THEIR POWER GAMES.

BY THAT TIME, AMALGAM'S PRIMARY FOCUS WAS TO PROTECT IT'S OWN INTERESTS,

AND RULES BASED ON FIXING GAMES HAD ALREADY BECOME A COMMON PRACTICE.

WHAT ABOUT DESTROYING THE ORGANI-ZATION'S NETWORKS?

THAT IS THE MAIN ISSUE.

THIS WOULD BE QUITE TROUBLESOME FOR SUCH A RESILIENT ORGANIZATION.

I THOUGHT ABOUT THAT FIFTEEN YEARS AGO,

BUT IT WAS ALREADY IMPOSSIBLE TO INTERVENE AGAINST THE EXISTING CRYPTOGRAPHY BASED ON THE CLASSIFIED ADS AND TELEX.

MR. HG WAS JUST THE ADMINISTRATOR IN SHAPE

AND HAD NO AUTHORITY TO OBJECT TO ANY DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE LEADERS.

WHEN I TOOK OVER FROM MY FATHER AS THE "ADMINISTRATOR" TWENTY YEARS AGO, THE ORGANIZATION WAS ALREADY UNCONTROL-LABLE.

YES.

IT SEEMS MR. AG FOUND A SOLUTION.

NOWADAYS, THE SITUATION HAS BECOME EVEN MORE COMPLICATED DUE TO THE INTERNET.

THAT SAID,

BY KNOWING IN ADVANCE THE PROTOCOLS BEING USED FOR ENCRYPTION, HE WAS ABLE TO INFUSE VIRUSES INTO THE COMMUNICATION CHANNELS.

WHILE LIMITED, HE HAS THE ABILITY TO PREDICT THE FUTURE.

Kalinin betrayed Mithril and connected with that person instead...?

So someone within Amalgam has managed to gain control over the whole organization...?

DAMN ...

CORRECT.

I DECIDED TO CREATE MITHRIL ON THAT DAY...

THE HOLY BIBLE

SO YOU GAVE UP TRYING TO CONTROL IT FROM THE INSIDE,

AND CREATED MITHRIL TO OPPOSE IT FROM THE OUTSIDE...

ANYWAY, WHAT WERE WE TALKING ABOUT EARLIER...

...OH YES,

THAT I WAS UNABLE TO STOP THE CORRUPTION AND GROWTH OF AMALGAM.

THAT WAS THE MOMENT WHEN AMALGAM'S ARROGANCE REACHED IT'S PEAK.

THE DETAILS REGARDING THE NUCLEAR ATTACK DURING THE GULF WAR STILL REMAIN A MYSTERY.

FOR THE SAKE OF THIS WORLD'S FUTURE.

MITHRIL WAS CREATED

AND YOU DIDN'T JUST

AND IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE SOME KIND OF NOBLE CAUSE?

BETRAY THE ORGANI-ZATION.

WHILE YOU HID IN SECRET.

IN THE END, YOU BETRAYED BOTH ORGANIZATIONS, AND ALLOWED THIS FARCE TO CONTINUE

YOU ALSO DECEIVED...

AND TOOK ADVANTAGE OF YOUR OWN SON!!

YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED THAT YOU WERE UNABLE TO OUTSMART YOUR OWN FATHER.

AS THE MALE OF THE MALLORY FAMILY,

ぐぬぬ……

...LOOKS LIKE IT WAS A WISE DECISION TO TAKE YOUR GUN AWAY.

ANYWAY, CAN I HAVE THE *LIST* NOW?

WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH THE LIST OF PAST LEADERS?

MOST OF THEM HAVE DIED ALREADY.

It is the **past** from that day 18 years ago that matters.

We already possess the **current** information as well as control over Amalgam.

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

However, the true value is not in the **present**, but in the **past**.

Amalgam back then will become a useful tool.

In order to re-do everything from that time onwards,

That's why she has requested the List as a "reference material" to take along to the next world.

AS THE ADMINIS-TRATOR OF THE ORGANI-ZATION, I CANNOT HAND IT TO YOU MYSELF.

IF YOU WANT THE LIST, FIND IT YOURSELF.

SUCH LOYALTY SEEMS POINTLESS RIGHT NOW...

Chidori Kaname...

NO...

THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY.

YOU GAVE UP RATHER QUICK.

ARE YOU PLANNING TO MAKE ME TALK?

LOOKS LIKE IT'S NOT HERE.

フッ フッ フッ

THIS IS IT.

...HOW DID YOU KNOW?

PE

IF YOU WERE TO HIDE IT SOMEWHERE, I CAN IMAGINE THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE HIDDEN IT ON THE BACK OF THE BIBLE.

IN A WAY, THIS IS IMMORAL INFORMATION.

THE HOLY BIBLE

NOT GOING TO BE DIFFICULT IF I USE THIS AS THE CIPHER.

THAT'S ...

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ASK ABOUT THE ENCRYPTION?

IN THE END, YOU'RE JUST A PRISONER.

WHO INTEN-TIONALLY LOCKED HIMSELF INSIDE THIS CAGE.

I'M FINISHED HERE. YOU'RE FREE TO GO.

YOU AREN'T GOING TO KILL ME?

HUH...

THERE'S NO REASON TO KILL SOMEONE WHO CAN'T DO ANYTHING.

and the son, who is full of anger and pain from his father's betrayal.

The father, who had given up fighting for life,

It's almost like me and Sagara.

...What a joke.

Tchak

I'm the same...

A prisoner who was chained to the past...

Hmph...

Prisoner, huh...

I'LL RETURN THIS TO YOU.

THUD

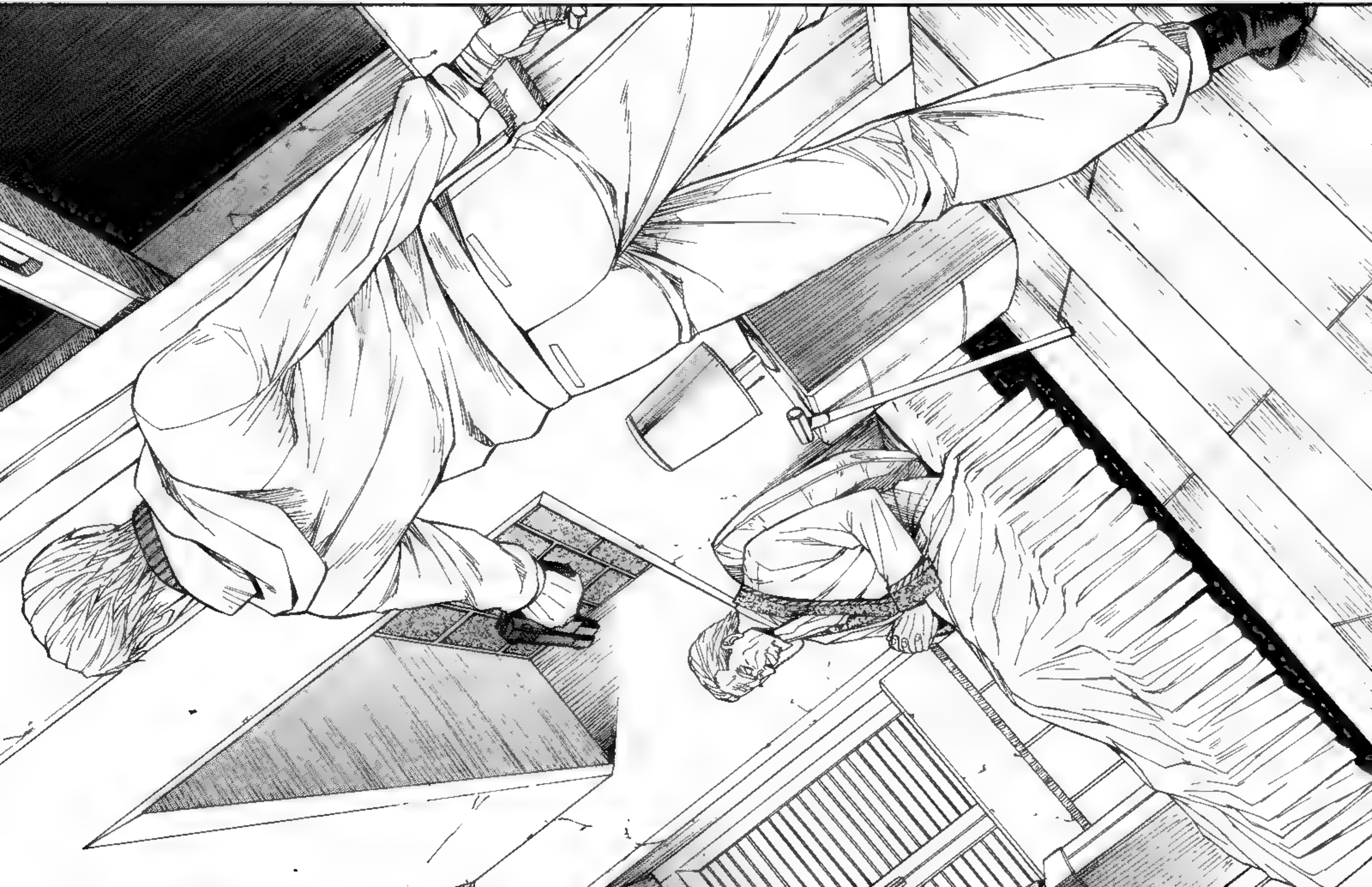
THIS IS YOURS.

CHNK

HAH

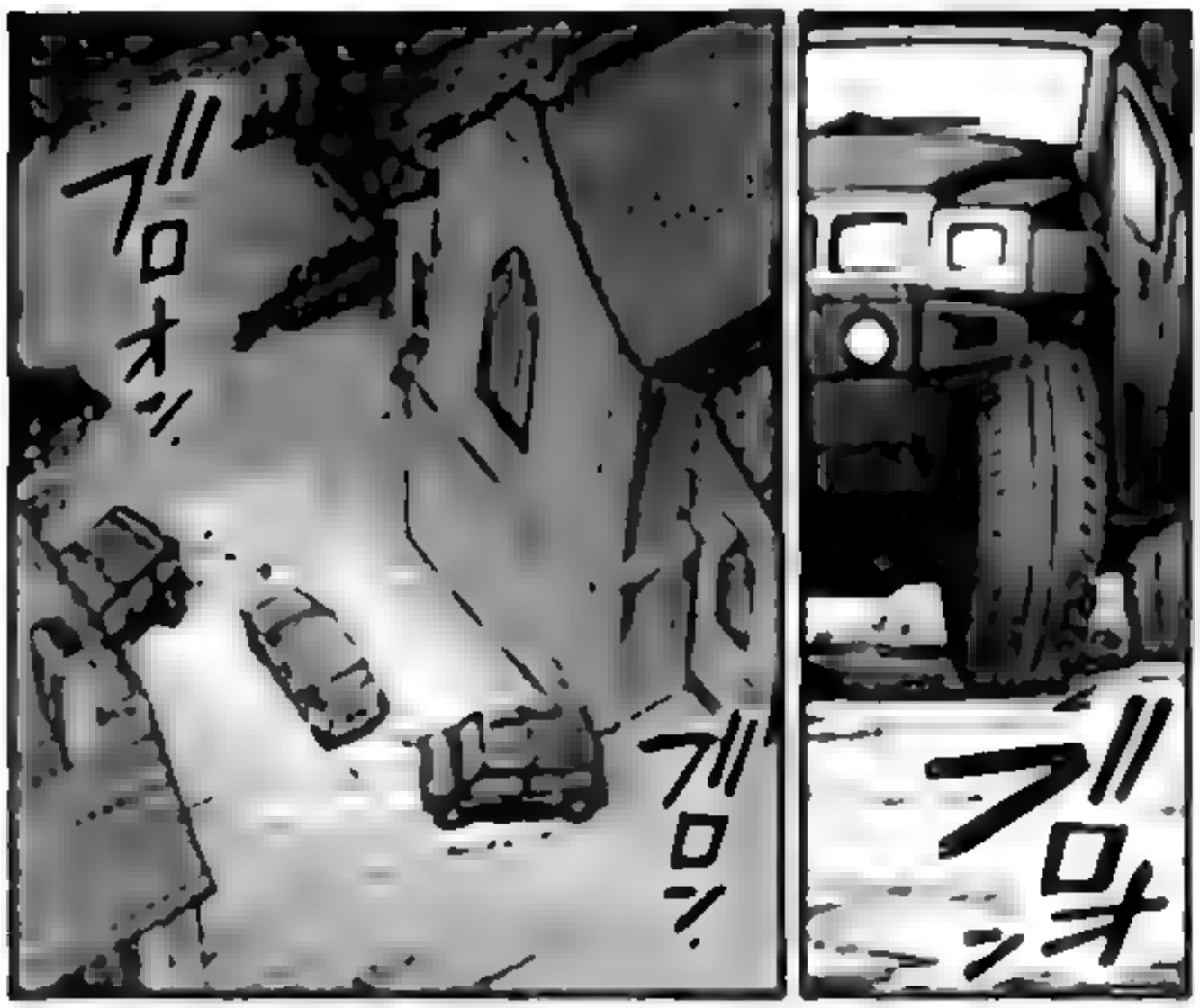
HAH

HAH




OPEN


LET'S GO
SHUT


ブロロン
ブロロン



was saved in the end...

Perhaps Lord Mallory

at this small town, where only his son knew about its location.

ブロロロ

He was probably hoping for such an end

If I'm going to continue to live like a prisoner...

WE'RE GOING SOMEWHAT ACCORDING TO PLAN.

SOME-WHAT... IS THERE A PROBLEM?

I'VE OBTAINED THE LIST.

GOOD, THEN HEAD BACK.

ブロオオン

MY SISTER HAS FOUND OUT ABOUT THE PLANS.

MEANWHILE AT MELIDA ISLAND

WE CAN'T HIDE THE INFORMATION FROM THE SATELLITES, SO I KNEW THAT IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF TIME, BUT...

WHAT ARE WE DOING ABOUT IT?

I'VE ALREADY GOT THE U.S NAVY TO ASSIST

IN SINKING THE TOY BOX.

WEST PACIFIC OCEAN - DEEP SEA

COORDINATE 120, DISTANCE 3000.

U.S. NAVY ASSAULT SUBMARINE AUGUSTA.

コォーン

コォーン

コォーン

TORPEDO ALERT. SONAR SIGNATURE HAS BEEN DETECTED.

...CAP-
TAIN?

...WE'LL ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE.

MISSION 073 FORKED ROAD

TORPEDO DETECTED FROM THE U.S. NAVY ASSAULT SUBMARINE AUGUSTA!!

COORDINATE 293, DISTANCE 800, SPEED 50 KNOTS!!

STAY ON COURSE, LAUNCH NO. 3 AND 4.

AYE AYE MA'AM, LAUNCHING TORPEDO NO. 3 AND 4.

AYE, CHANGING EMFC TO PASSIVE!

COURSE TO 335, STOPPING VESSEL,

BSHHU

BSHUU

CHANGE COURSE TO 335. STOP THE VESSEL AND CHANGE EMFC TO PASSIVE!

...IT'S COMING.



MISSION 073 FORKED ROAD

DAMN!!

SHIT...!!

WHAMM!!

AYE MA'AM, EMFC ACTIVE!!

COURSE 110,

LAUNCH NO. 1 AND 2 WHILE ACCELER-ATING!!

EMFC TO ACTIVE!! COURSE 110,

GRIP

DIVE TO DEPTH 900 AND

DECREASE ANGLE BY 20 DEGREES.

BSSHU BSHUU

LAUNCHING TORPEDO NO. 1 AND 2!!

COURSE 040, THROTTLE TO 1/3.

TURBULENT
S87 HMS

YES, CAPTAIN.

WE WILL RETREAT FROM THE NORTH-EAST.

I'd rather not create casualties,

They're just being manipulated by Amalgam.

By doing that, the crew would be able to get rest for at least twenty hours.

If we turn back now, we should be able to sink all four vessels.

but they're being serious...

We have no obligation to hold back against

those ordered to sink us.

There is nothing to worry about...

If we use the ADSLMM next and...

CAP-TAIN.

Maybe I should...

So you're against it...

YES.

MOVE

SHALL WE RELOAD WITH THE SAME TYPE OF TORPEDO?

WE WILL QUICKLY RETREAT FROM THIS AREA.

LET'S USE THE DECOY ADCAP AGAIN.

YES, CAPTAIN.

TDD-1 HANGAR

コォー コォー

Tap

While this is a duty for all the Mithril members...

Tap Tap Tap

It's been two years since I updated my will...

What would leaving a message for someone achieve?

I have nothing else to add.

TAP

"Good luck."

To the living who will continue to suffer at the whims of fate,

as a dead man, there's only one thing I can convey to you.

That's all.

How-ever...

For Chidori...

No... in a way, maybe words are unnecessary.

I have so much to say that I don't know what to say.

Just like Tessa right now...

and choose to go down a cruel and harsh path.

If she regained her senses again, she would probably blame herself

WILL BE 0.12.

THE ALIGNMENT FOR NO. 6 CARTILAGE UNIT

JUST AS I THOUGHT.

What could I possibly say to someone like that...

DDD

DD

THE ENTIRE FRAME IS STRAINED.

I RECOMMEND AVOIDING MOVEMENTS THAT EXCEED 20 G.

I AGREE.

BESIDES THAT, HOW'S YOUR CONDITION?

YOU WERE ABLE TO PREDICT WHAT I WAS ABOUT TO SAY?

IT'S NO BIG DEAL, JUST A GUESS.

I doubt that this unit would be able to handle another rough battle like our first one...

SER-
GEANT.

Laevatein was based around the M9.

It was never designed for extreme movement or firepower.

As such, the unit degrades quickly, gets damaged quickly, but has no replacement parts.

...PROB-
ABLY.

WILL THAT "BASTARD" SHOW UP AT OUR NEXT BATTLE?

Leonard's A.S. Belial...

and was forced to flee at Yamsk 11.

I lost in Tokyo,

IN THAT CASE...

WE'RE THE ONLY ONES THAT CAN FACE HIM.

GRIP

YEAH...

THE NEXT BATTLE WILL PROBABLY BE OUR LAST.

JUST ONE MORE, THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH.

THIRTY MINUTES LATER - BRIEFING ROOM

I HAVE SOME BAD NEWS.

IT APPEARS A SOVIET NUCLEAR MISSILE BASE IN THE MOUNTAINOUS NORTH-EAST REGION OF AFGHANISTAN HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY AN UNKNOWN FORCE.

SOMETHING LIKE THAT COULD ONLY BE PULLED OFF BY...

US, OR THEM.

IF THEY HAVE THOSE A.S. UNITS WITH A LAMBDA DRIVER AND ALASTOR, IT WOULD BE EASY.

IT'S THEM.

IT'S PROB-ABLY...

MEANT AS A DIVERSION: TO GAIN MORE TIME.

I HAVE NO IDEA.

GIVEN THAT THE CURRENT SITUATION IS ALREADY CLOSE TO A NUCLEAR WAR, I CAN'T IMAGINE WHY THEY WOULD EVEN BOTHER.

WHY ARE THEY GOING AFTER A NUCLEAR MISSILE BASE NOW?

BUT...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

SO...

LEONARD IS CURRENTLY ON THE ISLAND AND PROBABLY WANTS TO PREVENT THAT.

WE WERE PLANNING TO ATTACK MELIDA ISLAND.

WHAT COULD BE ON MELIDA ISLAND...

OF SUCH IMPORTANCE THAT A DIVERSION WOULD BE NECESSARY?

...I DON'T UNDERSTAND, TESSA.

SO THAT WE HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO INTERVENE?

HE TOOK OVER THE NUCLEAR MISSILE BASE?

YES.

ざわ…

ざわ…

IT ALL STARTED 18 YEARS AGO, WHEN A TELEPATHETIC EXPERIMENT IN SOVIET TERRITORY WENT OUT OF CONTROL...

Even I'm still only half convinced of this.

FAIR ENOUGH.

LISTEN CAREFULLY, THIS IS NOT A JOKE.

Our history, which has become distorted as a result.

Whis-pered, Black Techno-logy.

How-ever...

To me, this should be the only "correct world".

Those that should've been alive have died, and those that should've died are still alive.

TO MAKE THIS POSSIBLE, HE HAS CONSTRUCTED A POWERFUL TARTAROS DEVICE ON MELIDA ISLAND AND...

...SO LEONARD IS PLANNING TO CORRECT THE CURRENT HISTORY.

INTENDS TO USE KANAME-SAN'S POWER

TO ACTIVATE IT.

THEY ARE PLANNING TO CHANGE OUR HISTORY.

HEARING SOMETHING ERR... SO ABSURD SUDDENLY MAKES IT HARD TO BELIEVE.

ンーン…

I AGREE THAT THIS STORY IS RATHER FAR-FETCHED...

BUT IT DOES MAKE SOME SENSE.

SUDDENLY TELLING US SUCH AN UNREALISTIC FAIRYTALE LIKE THAT...

I KNOW.

HOWEVER, IT MAKES SENSE.

I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT THIS WAS ALL "STRANGE".

AND WHISPERED. LAMBDA DRIVER. ARM SLAVE.

THE PAST 18 YEARS THAT I HAVE LIVED ARE DEFINITELY REAL.

THANK YOU. THAT'S WHY I WON-EVER.

ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT BY CORRECTING THE HISTORY, THE COMRADES THAT HAVE DIED WILL COME BACK TO LIFE?

I DON'T SOMEONE ELSE LIKE ME, THERE ARE STILL MANY THINGS THAT I FIND HARD TO UNDER-STAND.

THEN

AND NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO NOTICE THAT CHANGE.

FROM THE MOMENT THAT TAROS CORRECTS HISTORY, THE WORLD WOULD CHANGE.

IT WOULDN'T HAPPEN LIKE WHAT YOU ARE IMAGINING.

S87

NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF TRICKERY IS USED,

I AM NOT GOING TO FORGET ABOUT THE COMRADES THAT HAVE DIED.

HOWEVER, PROBABLY. ONCE THE WORLD CHANGES, YOU WOULDN'T EVEN NOTICE IT

SINCE NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE HAPPENED.

I WOULDN'T FORGET.

THE PAST THREE YEARS I'VE FOUGHT ALONGSIDE YOU AS A MEMBER OF MITHRIL WOULD BECOME VOID?

HOWEVER, IF YOU NEVER EVEN MET THAT PERSON, HOW WOULD YOU STILL BE ABLE TO FEEL THAT WAY?

ME NEITHER.

A NEW WORLD WOULD BE CREATED BASED FROM THE PAST,

BUT WOULD NOT AFFECT ANYONE HERE...

THAT... IS TRUE...

WHAT ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF A "PARALLEL WORLD"?

HUH...

IN ANY CASE, IT WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU PEOPLE TO NOTICE BOTH WORLDS.

IT'S HARD TO SAY.

IT COULD GO EITHER WAY BASED ON THEORY.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "YOU PEOPLE"...

IF THERE IS A PARALLEL UNIVERSE,

IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO NOTICE THIS.

...MY HEAD IS GETTING CONFUSED.

IT'S SOMETHING THAT ONLY WE WHISPERED ARE ABLE TO DO.

WE CAN SEND AND RECEIVE TELEPATHIC WAVES ACROSS TIME SPACE THROUGH THE OMNISPHERE.

AT YAMSK 11, LEONARD TOLD ME THAT HE WILL "CORRECT THIS WORLD".

I WAS JUST SUSPICIOUS BACK THEN, BUT NOW I'M CONVINCED.

AND ONLY TRANSFER THEIR MEMORIES AND CONSCIOUSNESS TO THE "OTHER SIDE".

THEY ARE PLANNING TO ADJUST HISTORY TO THEIR CONVENIENCE

BUT IT'S ALL JUST FALLACY.

HOW CONVE-NIENT.

SO IT'S LIKE HAVING THE ABILITY TO CORRECT THE SAVE DATA...

WE WON'T EVEN BE ABLE TO NOTICE ANYTHING?

EVEN IF TESSA'S STORY IS REAL, IT DOESN'T AFFECT US, RIGHT?

COR-RECT.

TO ANOTHER PLACE.

HE'S PLANNING TO TAKE CHIDORI...

TO NORMAL PEOPLE, THE CURRENT THREAT IS THE NUCLEAR MISSILE BASE AT AFGHANISTAN.

COMPARED TO OVERTAKING MELIDA ISLAND, WHERE THE RISK IS UNKNOWN, WHICH DO YOU THINK HAS HIGHER PRIORITY?

THEN I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE REASON WHY WE NEED TO TAKE BACK MELIDA ISLAND.

PLEASE GIVE ME A VALID JUSTIFICATION TO CONVINCE THE SUB-ORDINATES.

LEONARD PLANS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SUCH THOUGHTS.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, SAGARA-SAN?

I...

THERE'S NO NEED TO SAY IT.

OF COURSE.

...UNDER NORMAL CIRCUM-STANCES,

IT WOULD BE THE NUCLEAR MISSILE BASE...

FINE.

ALSO FEEL THE SAME.

HE PROBABLY THINKS THAT ONCE TAROS ON MELIDA ISLAND IS ACTIVATED, WHATEVER HAPPENS TO THIS WORLD WON'T MATTER ANYMORE.

EVEN IF IT'S JUST A DIVERSION, LEONARD STILL INTENDS TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

ONLY THE WHISPERED WOULD BE ABLE TO GO TO THE NEW WORLD.

HE ALSO PROBABLY KEPT IT A SECRET FROM HIS OWN SUBORDINATES THAT

SSDF HHS

WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO, CAPTAIN?

HE'S MAD...

PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO PROTECT THE WORLD YOU LIVE IN.

YOU'LL ALL BE GOING TO AFGHANISTAN IN A HELI-COPTER.

YES...

WON'T YOU NEED GROUND FORCES?

BUT... YOU CAN'T CAPTURE THE ISLAND WITH THIS VESSEL.

IF I USE TAROS, I CAN CONTROL IT BY MYSELF.

I'LL HEAD TO MELIDA ISLAND WITH THIS VESSEL.

I'LL SPLIT UP OUR FORCES.

HE'LL BE THE ONLY GROUND FORCE.

SRT

ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT, SAGARA-SAN?

YES.

MELISSA...

ONLY SAGARA-SAN AND I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT ON MELIDA ISLAND.

WE'VE FOUGHT TOGETHER 'TIL NOW...

YET YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOU'RE GOING TO HANDLE THE REST ALONE?

ARE YOU SERIOUS!?

HHA...

THAT'S JUST SUICIDAL.

I'M A WHISPERED, AND WHILE SAGARA-SAN IS JUST A COMMONER, HE AGREED TO JOIN IN ORDER TO BRING KANAME-SAN BACK TO JAPAN.

THIS IS A PROBLEM THAT ONLY AFFECTS US.

I'M SORRY, BUT... THERE'S NO REASON TO BRING EVERYONE ALONG.

EVERYONE, PLEASE PREPARE TO LEAVE THIS VESSEL AT THE FINAL RESUPPLY POINT, FIVE HOURS FROM NOW.

THE DIVISION WILL BE DISBANDED AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE MISSION.

YOU ARE FREE TO LIVE HOWEVER YOU WISH.

I'M SORRY...

TESSA...

BUT WE SAY GOODBYE TODAY.

MISSION074 AFGHANISTAN THREAT



NORTH-EASTERN AFGHANISTAN - BADAKHSHAN REGION.

WHAT'S THE CURRENT LOCATION?

SOVIET BASE RECAPTURE DIVISION

FIVE KILOMETERS SOUTH OF ISHKASHIM MISSILE BASE.

WHAT ABOUT THE ENEMY?

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

ACCORDING TO THE HEAT SIGNATURES SIX A.S. UNITS AND A SMALL PLATOON

WE HAVE TEN SAVAGE

AND SIX SHADOW UNITS

THIS DOESN'T SOUND RIGHT.

KYUUUN

THIS IS GOING TO BE A MASSACRE

A FORCE WITH SIMILAR COMPOSITION IS ENCIRCLING IN A PINCER ATTACK FROM THE NORTH.

IN TOTAL, 30 VS 6

Huh? What's going...

CAPTAIN... ERR... YOUR GUN IS AIMED AT ME...

KLIK

BANG
BANG

...WHAT!?

SCCC

BANG

bzzzzt

WHAAA!!

BANG

BANG

BANG

bzzzzt

WHAT... SHIT!!

bzzzzt

It seems the newer model Shadow, equipped with the latest electronics, is having more issues.

Is this the enemy's jamming!?

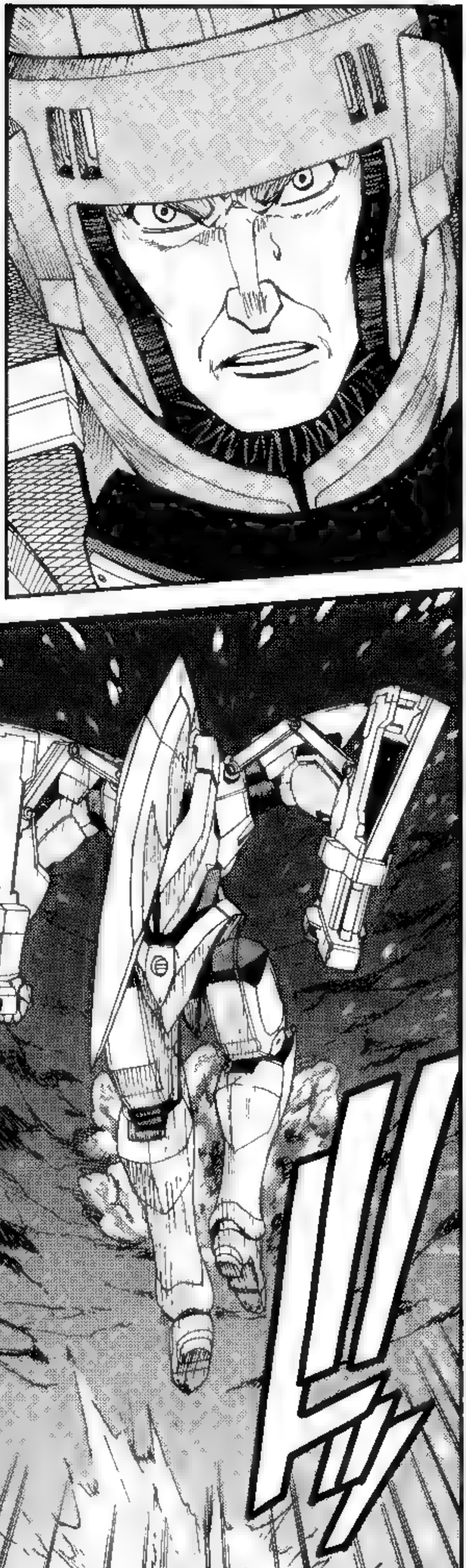
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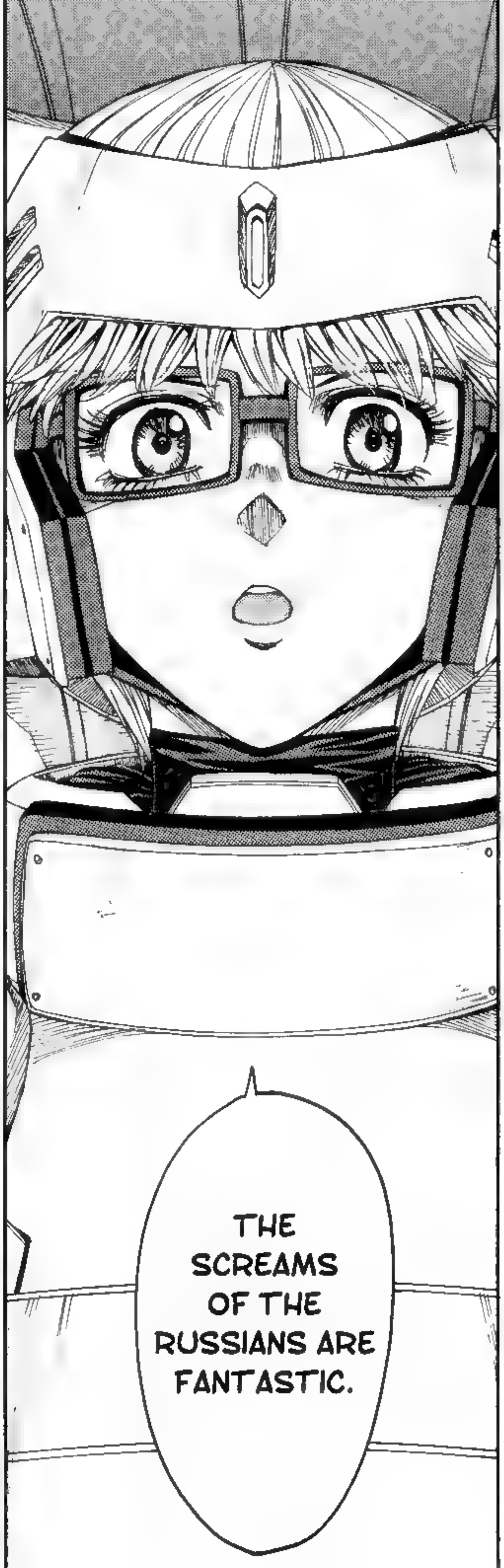
WHAT IS THAT UNIT?

OPEN

GUH ...






THE SCREAMS OF THE RUSSIANS ARE FANTASTIC.

Scream and beg for your life.

Ask to be spared in Russian.

Just like that police officer who was into Sem.

And...

GRIP

my mother,

who sold me to that officer.

When the mafia picked me up after I killed them,

I only learned how to count and kill.

I'll never forgive them...

I'll make all the Russians experience fear, before killing them!!

WHAT ABOUT YOU.

MISTER FOWLER?

NO... JUST A BIT MORE.

SABINE, HAVE YOU FINISHED YOUR END?

I'VE FINISHED A WHILE AGO.

I DON'T LIKE WASTING MY TIME WITH ELECTRONIC WARFARE.

The man who saved me from that place...

He promised me that.

The hatred that I feel inside

will soon all disappear.

DON'T GO OVERBOARD AND HINDER THIS MISSION.

UNDER-STOOD...

That's all I need...

But...

If only that woman wasn't around...

IT'S ALREADY BEEN TWO MONTHS SINCE YOU ARRIVED HERE...

TIME FLIES.

THIS IS BEAU-TIFUL.

I NEVER EXPECTED IT TO BE COMPLETED SO QUICKLY.

YOU'VE DONE WELL.

STEP

STEP

STEP

IT'LL BE COMPLETED SOON...

THIS *WHAT IF BOX.**

THE REMNANTS OF MITHRIL.

I'M SURE MY SISTER AND SAGARA SOUSUKE WILL BE COMING HERE.

THE ENEMY?

HOWEVER, BECAUSE WE WERE IN A HURRY, THE PARTS WERE TRACED.

THE ENEMY ALREADY KNOWS ABOUT THIS.

*What if Box is a reference made to a very well known manga series, called Doraemon where the cat robot brings out a telephone booth, which has the ability for the user to change the current world into a parallel world based on a "What if XXX" condition set by user

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

TESSA AND SOUSUKE ALREADY DIED, REMEMBER?

GEEZ, KEEP YOUR HEAD ON.

...NO, YOU'RE RIGHT. MY MISTAKE.

THAT'S JUST YOUR IMAGINATION...

EVEN IF THOSE TWO AREN'T COMING, THE REMNANTS OF MITHRIL WILL BEFORE THIS ACTIVATES.

WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE, RIGHT?

WE SHOULD HAVE SPLIT UP THEIR FORCES USING FOWLER'S DISTRACTION.

You don't even doubt anymore...

How can you laugh with a smile like that?

THIS ISLAND HAS TWELVE KODARL, THREE BEHEMOTH AS WELL AS TWO LEVIATHAN UNITS OUT IN THE SEA.

INCLUDING MY BELIAL.

THE GROUND FORCES ARE UNDER MR. KALININ'S COMMAND.

IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT THE ENEMY MANAGES TO INFILTRATE THE BASE, THESE WOULD BE OUR BEST FORCES.

WE ALSO HAVE THE U.S. NAVY OUT TO SINK THE TOY BOX, THOUGH I DOUBT THAT WE CAN RELY ON THEM.

FINE.

LEAVE IT TO ME.

ONCE THE TARTAROS ACTIVATES, WEAPONS ARE USELESS.

I JUST NEED YOU TO GIVE ME TIME.

I'M GOING TO MAKE EVERYTHING BECOME HOW WE WANT IT TO BE.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS - UNINHABITED ISLAND - TAGAPUL

SUPPLY SHIP BARNEY WORREL

SOUSUKE.

THOUGH I DOUBT YOU'LL NEED ALL THAT.

OKAY.

WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED WITH THAT, PLEASE GET THE 76MM OVER THERE.

YOU'LL USE THEM, RIGHT?

LOOKS LIKE IT WAS QUITE DIFFICULT TO GATHER MG PARTS.

I GUESS THE NEXT BATTLE WILL REALLY BE OUR LAST.

...YEAH.

KURZ OFTEN USED THIS.

IT'S SAD, REALLY... FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN USING THEM SINCE THE PROTOTYPE XMG.

TO MELIDA ISLAND, JUST THE TWO OF YOU.

WHERE?

...SO, ARE YOU REALLY GOING?

OPEN

SAT

IT'S SUICIDE.

i

CLOSE

WHO KNOWS.

SHE MIGHT GIVE UP.

IF YOU SAY THAT YOU'LL GO TO AFGHAN-ISTAN,

REASON, HUH.

IS IT REALLY OKAY TO LET HER DIE FOR SOME STUPID REASON LIKE PREVENTING THE CHANGE OF HISTORY?

I THINK SHE'LL GO ALONE EVEN IF I DON'T.

SHE HAS A REASON WHY SHE NEEDS TO.

SRT

Leonard's plans are like trying to grab the clouds.

STUPID REASON, HUH...

It would help this mission if I also went there, not just Mao and Clouseau.

According to the latest intel, there'll be two A.S. units that are even stronger than the Kodaris in Afghanistan.

Wouldn't it be more practical to prioritize the Nuclear missile base in Afghanistan?

She's right.

...This is a trap.

GRIP

That is a battlefield that I have connections with... You know what?

If anything,

Afghanistan is the place where Lieutenant Commander and I fought together.

to divert us away from our primary objective, Melida Island.

To them, the biggest threat is me and the Laevatein.

They are trying to make me choose the easier option of Afghanistan

TESSA IS CORRECT.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ARE DEFINITELY AT MELIDA ISLAND.

LEONARD AND BELIAL, AS WELL AS

FORGET ABOUT THE CHANGE OF HISTORY FOR A MOMENT, JUST IMAGINE WHAT THE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER WOULD DO IN THIS SITUATION.

BUT...

WELL...

I GUESS THAT'S TRUE...

THOUGH I DON'T LIKE IT.

In the past, I would have never realized

the mental conflict Mao is experiencing right now.

It must be tough... and worrying...

To follow the decision which could result in Tessa's death.

TAP

GRIP

…

IF YOU'RE STILL WORRIED, I CAN SLEEP WITH YOU.

MISSION075 EACH DECISION

It must be difficult and worrying to follow the decision which could result in Tessa's death.

If it was possible, I'm sure she'd want to open up to me and tell me how she really feels right now.

If he was still here right now, he'd...

TAP

IF YOU'RE STILL WORRIED...

I CAN SLEEP WITH YOU.

MISSION 075 EACH DECISION

IF WE ENJOY SOME HOT EXERCISE,

I'M SURE YOU'LL FEEL RELIEVED, AND BE ABLE TO FOCUS ON THE TASK.

FLICK

... WHAT?

EHHH... WELL...

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

SRT

...DON'T BE STUPID.

SMIRK

I THOUGHT IT'D CHEER YOU UP...

I THOUGHT THAT IF I SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT, YOU'D HIT ME AND STRANGLE MY NECK...

ZZZ...OOO

YOU'RE RIGHT. SORRY.

YOU CAN'T REPLACE HIM.

YOU'RE YOU.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT I SAID TO YOU DURING OUR RETURN FROM SICILIA?

THINK ABOUT YOUR OWN FUTURE.

YEAH...

IT FELT LIKE YOU ALWAYS HAD THE LUXURY OF WORRYING ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT LATER.

BUT I WAS ACTUALLY JUST IRRITATED.

BACK THEN, I MIGHT HAVE LOOKED LIKE I WAS SAYING ALL THAT FOR YOUR SAKE,

YOU'RE NOT LIKE US, WHO INTENTION-ALLY GO OUT INTO THE BATTLEFIELD.

YOU JUST HAPPENED TO LEARN HOW TO FIGHT, IN ORDER TO SURVIVE.

I'VE WATCHED YOU ALL THIS TIME AND I THINK I FINALLY UNDERSTAND.

YOU'RE A KIND PERSON.

FORGET ABOUT GUNS AND BE KIND TO PEOPLE.

BE SOMEONE WHO CAN SMILE FROM THE HEART.

WHEN THIS IS OVER, FORGET ABOUT US

AND JUST LIVE FOR YOURSELF.

DON'T MAKE KANAME SAD.

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

I...

...CAN'T DO THAT.

I'M SURE THAT YOU CAN DO IT.

CHIDORI ...?

IF A PERSON LOVES SOMEONE, AND THAT PERSON CAN SAY "EVERYTHING'S FINE" TO THEM,

THAT'S ALL THAT MOST PEOPLE NEED.

ゴオー

ゴオー

ゴオー

CLANK

CLANK

CLANK

CLANK

Then...

CLANK

If Chidori said, "everything's fine" to me, I would probably be okay.

The person who can save Mao's heart is no longer...

IS IT ABOUT MAO?

YOU'RE COM-PLETELY SICK AND TIRED OF FIGHTING.

YOU'RE PROBABLY PROJECTING YOURSELF ONTO MAO BECAUSE YOU CAN'T NOTICE THAT YOURSELF.

AREN'T YOU TIRED YOURSELF?

ME?

LIEU-TENANT.

THERE'S NOTHING THAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT THAT.

MAO ISN'T THAT WEAK.

AM I RIGHT?

BECAUSE I'M THE SAME.

Smile

...WHY DO YOU THINK THAT?

TAKURODA

GAMES

I'M GOING TO AKIHABARA NEXT.

GRIP

I'VE BEEN THERE ALREADY.

WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER, I'M GOING TO GET SOME REST.

MIGHT GO AND VISIT THE HOLY LAND.

MECCA?

OKAY...

LET ME HANDLE MAO.

ANYWAY, JUST WORRY ABOUT YOURSELF.

GRIP

ERR... LIEUTE-NANT... IF YOU DON'T LET GO...

WELL, I'LL SEND THEM TO THIS ADDRESS ...

LIEU-TENANT, SHALL I HOLD ONTO THAT FOR YOU?

GRIP

YEAH. THESE ARE ALL FAMOUS DVD MOVIES, BUT I WAS PLANNING TO WATCH THEM AT HOME AFTER THIS MISSION.

THAT'S A GOOD HOBBY.

I've only seen the badly edited U.S. versions of these famous anime movies over ten years ago. I finally managed to get ahold of the original Japanese versions, and it'ss the duty of an anime fan to make time to watch them...

My sub-conscious is telling me to watch them while I still can.

ERRR... LIEU-TENANT?

AH, SORRY.

PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THEM.

IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

SOU-SUKE.

I'VE BEEN MOVING AROUND PLACES FOR A MONTH.

OH, THIS IS FOR YOU.

A LET-TER?

FROM KUDAN MIRA.

SHE ASKED ME TO PERSONALLY HAND IT TO YOU.

HEY.

LEMON.

OPEN

To Mr. Sagara Sousuke,

I hope you are well. This is Kudan Mira, you saved me from Siberia a while ago.

Though I'm not sure if the "current me" will be seeing that scenery.

I'm writing this letter from a house that overlooks an old garden.

It's winter now, so everything looks bleak, but from what Hunter-san tells me, the anemone flowers bloom like crazy in the spring.

and I heard about the circumstances regarding people who were born like Teletha-san, Chidori-san and myself.

I've exchanged several mails with Teletha-san

To be honest, I personally prefer what Leonard-san is trying to do, rather than Teletha-san.

I imagine everyone is about to start a difficult battle,

a battle that will be a huge turning point for our world like "Nick of Time."

GRIP

Even now, I still sometimes get cruel flashbacks from the time back in that Siberia research facility.

This world is a mess, and I'm sure there will continue to be major conflicts.

If it's possible to return everything back to the correct way, that is my wish.

However, I'll let Sagara-san decide whether to assist Teletha-san or stop her.

You saved my life, so my feelings belong to you.

Er...
I didn't mean anything odd by that.

...Though, if you feel the same way, I'll do anything for you.

...What am I writing...

Lemon-san is here today, so I've handed this letter to him.

This might be the last time, so please let me say this again.

Thank you,
and I wish you all the best.

From Kudan Mira.

A MEMORY CHIP?

tap

PS:
The chip inside the envelop contains a video I just happened to notice on the internet.

When you have the time, please watch it.

WHEN MIRA HANDED THAT LETTER TO ME,

IT WAS LIKE A GIRL HANDING OVER A LOVE LETTER.

I WONDER WHY YOU'RE SO POPULAR WITH THE CHICKS?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

WHAT DOES IT SAY?

SRT

CRUMPLE

COM-PLICATED ...

IT'S...

...LEMON.

I'M FAR MORE HANDSOME, AND RELIABLE.

And it's possible to redo things again...

If his claim is true...

I'm sure that things could become a lot better...

Mira supports Leonard rather than Tessa...

WHAT IS IT?

TAKE CARE, SOUSUKE.

YOU TOO.

I'M DONE HERE, SO I'M GOING.

OKAY. WELL.

NO... IT'S NOTHING.

"See you next time", huh?

SEE YOU NEXT TIME.

SRT

The words have no feeling, even though they came from my own mouth...

I'M FINE.

CAPTAIN, ARE YOU OKAY?

TDD-1 BRIEFING ROOM

BUT...

THAT'S TRUE,

IT'S POSSIBLE TO USE THE LADY CHAPEL'S TAROS TO CONTROL THE VESSEL BY YOURSELF,

BUT YOU STILL NEED A TRAINED CREW AS WELL AS MEN LIKE ME WHO DON'T KNOW HOW TO KEEP THEIR MOUTH SHUT.

THE MISSION'S SUCCESS IS THE NO. 1 PRIORITY.

HMS

ARE YOU SURE?

SINCE YOU'LL BE CONTROLLING THIS VESSEL ON YOUR OWN, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET ANY REST.

FROM NOW, IT'LL BE OVER 24 HOURS UNTIL THE END OF BATTLE AT MELIDA ISLAND.

.....

OF COURSE, THAT'S WHY I...

I ALSO DON'T HAVE THE CONFIDENCE TO CONVINCE THE SUB-ORDINATES.

I'M STILL SKEPTICAL ABOUT THE CONCEPT OF A PARALLEL UNIVERSE.

...WHAT DID YOU SAY?

HAS PLAYING DEMOCRACY SATISFIED YOU YET?

WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO KILL ME?

IF I AND THREE OTHER OFFICERS HAD REQUESTED YOUR REMOVAL FROM YOUR CURRENT POST,

IT IS THE COMMANDER'S DUTY TO DRAG HIS SUBORDINATES TO HELL IF THERE'S AN UNREASONABLE MISSION THAT DEMANDS IT.

YOU'RE TOO MUCH OF A PERFECTION-IST AND IDEALIST.

.....

COULD YOU CONTINUE TO HOLD ON TO YOUR COMMAND EVEN IF IT MEANT YOU'D HAVE TO KILL ME?

UNFORTUNATELY, YOU LACK THE NECESSARY QUALITIES FOR AN OFFICER.

...I PROBA-BLY... COULDN'T.

S87 HMS

THAT IS YOUR LIMITATION.

TO DIE TOGETHER.

HMS

ORDER ME AND THE CREW

WHAT DO YOU EXPECT ME TO DO, THEN...?

CLOSE

PLEASE... GIVE ME SOME TIME.

ALONE.

UNDER-STOOD.

Sorry, Carl. It was impossible for your daughter to live a normal life.

TAP

However, she chose her own path from the rough waves of fate.

That's why I want her to decide on her own for the final path.

RUSTLE

Carl, I'll watch over your daughter `til the very end...

PAULA...

RUSTLE

Yet she decided to contact me at this time...

We've not met for over five years since the divorce...

GRIP

separated from me... No, maybe I just never noticed before...

She has become more beautiful after she

OPEN

HMS

RUSLTE

If I'm still alive, I'll go

back to Plymouth, where Paula currently lives.

Maybe it'll be a good idea to meet with her.

HAVE YOU DECIDED?

THIS IS THE MINIMUM REQUIRE-MENT.

CAPTAIN, YOUR ORDERS.

PLEASE PROCEED WITH THIS.

PLEASE GATHER THE 25 MEMBERS LISTED TO THE BRIEFING ROOM IMMEDIATELY.

AYE AYE, MA'AM.

MISSION 076 THE DISMISSAL OF MITHRIL



TDD-1
HANGAR

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS - UNINHABITED ISLAND - TAGAPUL

TDD-1 AND SUPPLY SHIP BARNEY WORREL

LIEU-TENANT.

With just several hours remaining... This is just...

However, because of the emergency use, there are several unknown functionality issues...

In order to quickly land on Melida Island, we'd need this emergency XL-3 booster.

WHAT CAN I DO...

SHIT!!

BASED ON THE CAUSE, REPLACEMENT PCBS OR PARTS MIGHT BE NECESSARY.

NO.

THIS ISN'T A SOFTWARE PROBLEM.

JUST ASSEMBLING THE UNIT WILL BE SUFFICIENT.

I'LL DO THE ADJUSTMENTS MYSELF.

MACHINES SHOULD JUST REMAIN QUIET.

THIS ISN'T SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN OVERCOME WITH JUST EFFORT.

A MACHINE.

IS THERE A PROBLEM?

CAN YOU IMAGINE HAVING WINGS ON YOUR BACK?

HUH... I MIGHT HAVE DURING MY CHILDHOOD.

IF SUCH A SITUATION WAS POSSIBLE FOR HUMANS,

THE PROBLEM HERE MAY NOT BE WITH XL-3, BUT MYSELF.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

SO YOU MEAN IF YOUR BACK SUDDENLY GREW WINGS, IT'D AFFECT YOUR STABILITY?

THAT IS MY THEORY.

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF DATABUS LINES USING THE CURRENT FACILITIES?

THE VOLUME OF DATA TRANSFERRING FROM THE MOTION MANAGER'S DATABUS IS INCREASING,

BUT I BELIEVE THAT LAEVATEIN IS HAVING DIFFICULTY ACCEPTING THIS.

BODY SENSES.

INDEED.

THIS IS NOT AN ERROR.

TDD-1

IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE, BUT

ACCORDING TO THE DESIGNS, THERE SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT BUS BANDWIDTH FOR THE XL-3.

TDD-1

IF I WAS JUST A MACHINE.

I THINK I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO SAY EARLIER.

I SEE...

It's not just a normal machine.

AI's constructed with electronic circuits, but also contains a mysterious system called the Lambda Driver.

If I increase it any further, there wouldn't be much difference compared to a human brain.

Increasing the bus bandwidth could be a solution, but...

THAT IS UNFOR-TUNATE.

HOWEVER, THERE ISN'T ENOUGH TIME LEFT TO FULLY SHUTDOWN YOUR SYSTEM AND WORK ON IT.

However, this means we'll need to go through the water, where the enemy is waiting in anticipation.

WE'LL USE THE UNDERWATER UNIT TO LAND.

LET'S GIVE UP AND REMOVE THE XL-3

The probability of success will be slim.

I think we need the XL-3...

The kids and mom are waiting with meat pies.

I was planning to leave the vessel with Mora and return to Florida.

Stop it, Ed!

TURBULENT
587 HMS

YOU'RE STAYING BEHIND, CAPTAIN'S ORDERS.

TDD-1

If only this unit could be fixed...

SACKS!

I'LL HANDLE THIS UNIT.

AFFIRM-ATIVE.

Back then, the fifteen year old me was full of confidence.

I never doubted for a moment that there would be any difficulties or foes that I couldn't overcome.

It's been two and a half years since the maiden voyage...

CLANK

CLANK

CLANK

But...

What about now...

CLANK

I'm about to give out my final order...

CLANK

I'm Mitsuki's witch!

ATTENTION!!

Get a hold of yourself!

Straighten your back, raise your chin, and don't let your eyes wander!

I am the Commander with intelligence and ability to overcome whatever difficulties or foes.

I just need to walk up the platform and salute them.

And show them I'm well aware of just who I am...

CLANK

SLAM

I did it again...!!

...CAP-TAIN?

I'm not fine at all!

むくり

I'M FINE.

Yeah, I should get rid of this ramp immediately!

It's all the fault of this unstable ramp...

I've always been careful, but of all times to mess up, why right before my last orders!?

I feel like this is the first time I've messed up in a place like this.

...There's no answer like that.

It's all useless on top of the platform...

I need to quickly come up with a way to regain my composure...

...What am I thinking!?

...?

See, everyone's standing emotionless...

I'm sure everyone's beyond belief.

They all seem to think that this is the correct thing to do.

They seem to be waiting for the gratitude from the girl who is likely to fall as soon as she walks.

What is this? All the adults are standing, holding their laughter?

Just like me.

STAND

They're all fools...



SRT

Maybe I should just inform them of the facts.

UMMM ...

Am I an idiot? Did I consider myself to be some kind of saint?

What arrogance to think that for someone who's so clumsy.

YOU'RE ALL FIRED TODAY.

THANK YOU ALL.

.....





I was always afraid that they would be disappointed in me.



I get it...

Now all that's left is to do what I want to do.





That battle has ended.

ゴォォン

ゴォォン

THIRTY MINUTES LATER

TESSA'S ORDERS.

JUST WHEN I'VE MANAGED TO FIND A REPLACEMENT MOTHER TOO.

I STILL HAVE UN-FINISHED BUSINESS ..

...WOULD HAVE BEEN COOL IF I COULD SAY THAT.

WHY DID YOU STAY BEHIND?

AS PER LIEUTENANT'S WORDS, SERGEANT. PLEASE JUST PRESERVE YOUR STRENGTH.

I'LL HELP OUT WITH THE MAIN-TENANCE

THERE'S NOTHING THAT YOU CAN DO.

RIGHT, AL?

THOUGH, I PROBABLY WOULD HAVE STAYED EVEN IF I WASN'T ORDERED.

JUST DO AS SHE SAYS.

WHAT A NICE WIFE YOU HAVE.

...OKAY.

KASUYA ...

CLANK

STEP

STEP

STEP

STEP

REAR SECTION - RESIDENCE QUARTERS

How ironic.

GOOD LUCK... HUH.

GOOD LUCK!!

Looks like he wanted to prepare the meals for the crew, but it wasn't necessary in the end.

That Kasuya...

Back then, I apologized to Chidori who was crying.

When I fought with that traitor Danigan, Chidori was around here...

Chidori and I are always in danger.

GRIP

Both Chidori and I were only able to be honest with each other when we faced dangerous or difficult situations.

I wonder if it'll be the same again

the next time that I have a chance to speak with her again?

Wouldn't all this be just a waste of time?

Things won't go back to like before anymore...

But the current Chidori isn't the same person that I know.

Like that letter from Mira...

Doing nothing and letting Leonard do what he wants is...

OPEN

TDD-1
COMMAND
CENTER

It'll be easy if I use the glock I'm secretly carrying.

I'll take over the command center now.

SERGEANT SAGARA, ON WHOSE ORDERS HAVE YOU COME HERE?

SAGARA-SAN...?

That's it.

Point the gun towards Tessa's head and order everyone to "freeze"...

I'll pull out the gun from my waist,

throw Mardukas towards the Deck officer...

I'LL STAND THERE AS THE HIGHEST RANKING OFFICER.

I AM THE ONLY REMAINING GROUND UNIT.

JUST LIKE LIEUTENANT COMMANDER KALININ USED TO.

Then just use up time and make everyone stop and do nothing at the bottom of the ocean.

...Such a concept... is totally unlike me.

STEP

I'M FINE, BUT...

STEP

STEP

IT'S FINE WITH ME, BUT WE'RE STILL QUITE FAR FROM THE MISSION ZONE.

HMM... WELL, I DON'T THINK THAT'LL BE A PROBLEM, BUT...

IF YOU GET BORED, YOU'RE FREE TO LEAVE ANYTIME.

WHAT ABOUT YOURSELF?

SRT

This is bad...

Yet I'm still undecided and confused unlike Tessa...

21 hours fifteen minutes before reaching the mission zone.

REMAINING TIME
21:15

At this rate, I'll fail.

18 HOURS LATER: EAST OF NEPAL, DIPAYAL AIRPORT

HUH...

WE'RE DELAYED FOR TWO HOURS, EVEN THOUGH EVERY SECOND COUNTS.

WHY ARE WE RE-SUPPLYING AT THIS LOCATION?

WE HAVE TO COME TO THIS BASE BECAUSE WE'RE ONE LANDING UNIT SHORT...

THE LANDING UNITS ARE THE REMAINS FROM THE INDIA DIVISION THAT WAS WIPED OUT ABOUT A YEAR AGO.

THE SURVIVORS ARE SUPPOSED TO BRING THEM OVER FROM EAST BENGAL.

AND WE'RE JUST FOUR HOURS BEFORE THE NUCLEAR MISSILES CAN BE LAUNCHED...

IT'LL BE 1,200 KILOMETERS FROM HERE TO AFGHANISTAN'S MISSILE BASE.

PREPARE THE FUEL AND SUPPLIES!!

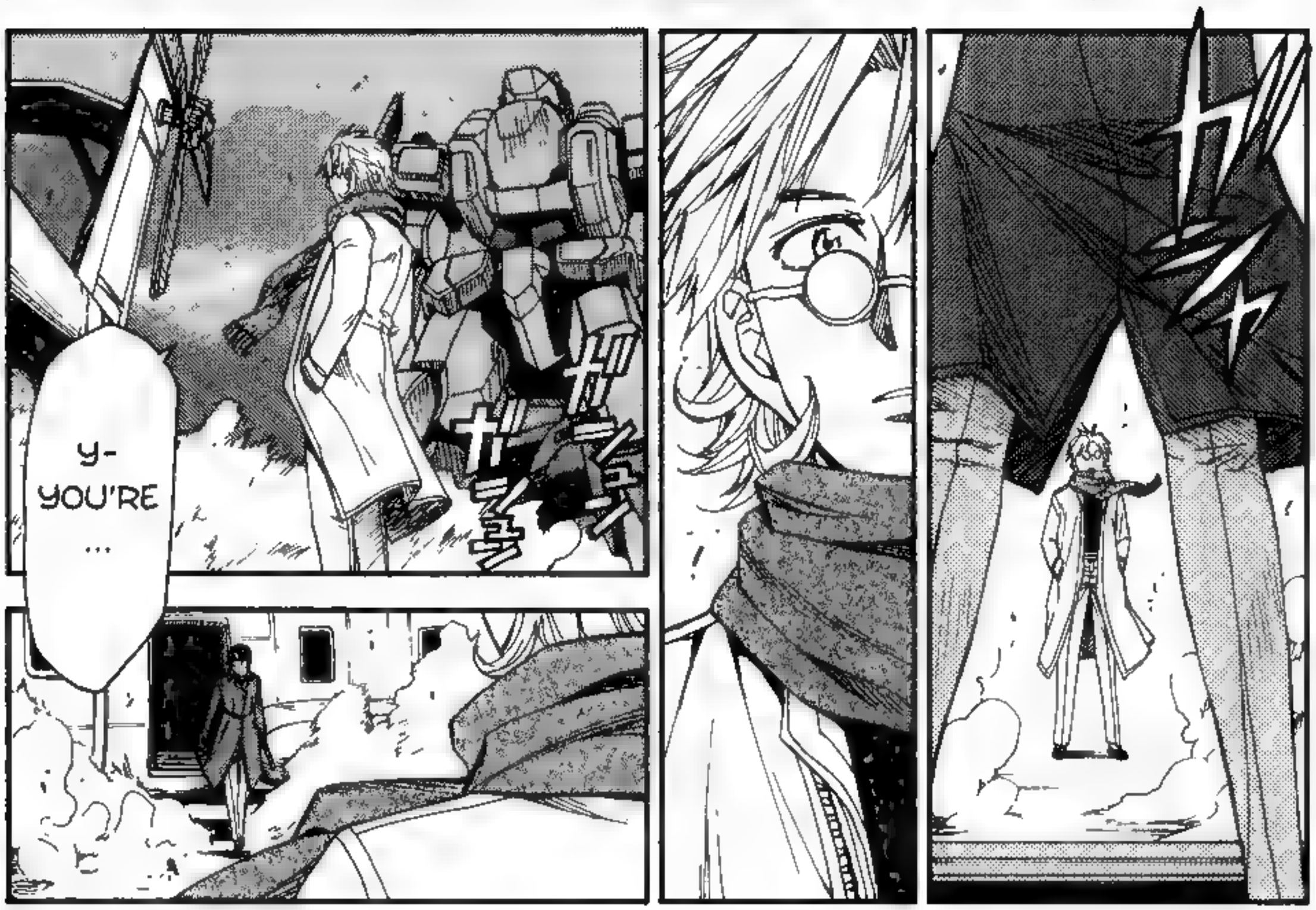
THE HELI-COPTER IS COMING!

I'M GOING TO BRING OUT THE MG TO ASSIST WITH EQUIPPING THE UNITS.

OKAY.






y-
YOU'RE
...

WRAITH!!

MISSION 077 ALL FOR ONE

HOW DID YOU GET HERE!?

YOU'RE STILL ALIVE!!

THAT'S SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK MYSELF.

HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO GET HERE FROM THAT SITUATION?

WRAITH!!

LIEU-TENANT MAO.

.....

THAT'S A JOKE.

I'VE ALREADY HEARD THE DETAILS.

EH... YOU'RE INTER-ESTED?

IT'LL BE A LONG STORY.

I WAS CAPTURED BY THE MOSCOW POLICE AFTER THAT ATTACK. BUT FORTUNATELY I WAS HANDED OVER TO THE GRU NOT THE KGB.

ONE OF MY FORMER SENIORS WAS IN THE GRU AND, WELL, IN EXCHANGE FOR SOME INFOR-MATION, I WAS RELEASED.

I'M GLAD THAT YOU WERE SAFE.

THANK YOU, YOU SEEM FINE YOURSELF.

I'VE NOT SPOKEN ABOUT ANYTHING THAT WOULD HINDER THIS MISSION.

REGARDING YAMSK 11.

SHARING INFOR-MATION WITH GRU?

THE HEAD OF THE GRU HAS CONSIDERED AMALGAM A THREAT FROM SOME TIME AGO, AND WISHES TO SEPARATE FROM AMALGAM.

HOWEVER, THE GRU WANTS A WAY TO CONTACT YOU GUYS.

I KNOW THAT YOU'RE UNABLE TO JUST BELIEVE MY WORDS.

HMM.

I HAVE TWO GIFTS.

NOT FOR FREE.

THEY'VE BEEN HAVING TROUBLE TAKING BACK THE MISSILE BASE FROM THEM.

THEY'VE ALEADY SENT OVER A LARGE RECOVERY DIVISION, BUT WERE STOPPED BY THE ENEMY'S A.S UNITS.

SO... THEY'VE CONVENIENTLY ASKED US TO HANDLE IT?

THIS IS...

SHU

FIRST IS THIS.

THIS IS REALLY HELPFUL...

TO HAND IT IN PERSON. IT WAS TOO RISKY TO SEND ELECTRON-ICALLY.

I SEE, I'M GLAD THAT I WAS ABLE

THE LATEST DATA ON THE ELECTRONIC LAYOUTS INSIDE THE BASE, THE SECURITY SYSTEM AND THE ACTIVATION SYSTEM.

A 3D MAP OF THE MISSILE BASE?

GATHER AROUND!! WE HAVE SOME CHANGES TO THE ORIGINAL PLANS!!

THANKS WRAITH. THIS WILL MAKE LIFE EASIER FOR US.

HOWEVER, THIS IS JUST LIKE THE USUAL PATTERN.

BUT "WHO DARES WINS".

ONLY WHEN THE FIRE HAS BECOME LARGE DO WE GET CALLED UP.

SIR!!

BUT I'VE GOT ONE MORE BIT OF NEWS

AND ERR, IT'S NOT THAT IMPOR-TANT.

NEVER MIND THE THANKS.

BEL.

SURE, NOT A PROBLEM.

I WANT TO FOCUS ON THE BATTLE PLAN FIRST.

SORRY, TELL US LATER IF IT'S NOT THAT IMPORTANT.

AH...

ゴオン ゴオン

SURE.

STEP

THOUGH IT'S NOT A QUES-TION.

CAN I INTER-RUPT?

THAT'S ALL.

ANY QUES-TIONS?

STEP

32 remaining.

I know all these faces,

and I can see that they're all nervous.

UMMM...

What should I say... For my final orders...?

THIS IS PROBABLY THE LAST TIME, SO I'LL TELL EVERYONE NOW.

As a commoner, I should say something appropriate.

But she and I are in different positions.

I don't want to say any farewells,

I think I know what Tessa was feeling back then.

THAT'S ...

NO...

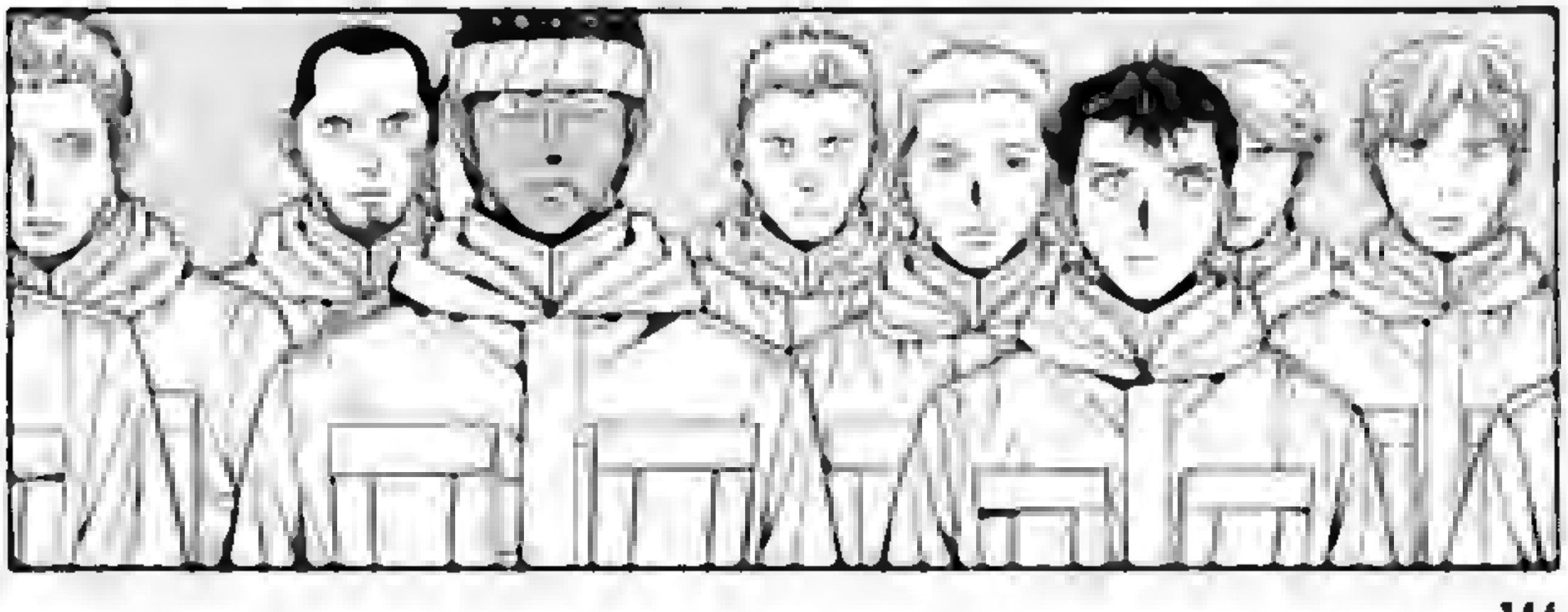
THE CURRENT SITUATION IS TOUGH,

THIS MISSION WILL BE DIFFICULT AND HIGHLY DANGEROUS, PLUS WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME LEFT.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS?

BUT THE TRUTH IS EVEN CRUELER. THE WORST THING ABOUT ALL THIS...

THE FACT THAT YOU GUYS WILL BE SAVING THE WORLD.



11

LOOKS LIKE IT.

WERE WE SUPPOSED TO LAUGH?

THOSE ARE THE KIND OF THINGS OTHER "BRAVE" GROUPS SHOULD BE DOING, RIGHT?

WHO'S THE IDIOT LETTING US HANDLE IT?

THAT'S AWFUL!!

YEAH!!

I'M SURE THOSE THAT DIED ARE PROBABLY LAUGHING ON THE OTHER SIDE RIGHT NOW.

YEAH!

YEAH!

HAD A PURPOSE.

ALL THE TRAINING AND THE MISSIONS AND THE SACRIFICES

WELL, ANYWAY ...

IT JUST MEANS THAT WHAT WE'VE DONE 'TIL NOW WASN'T FOR NOTHING.

BUT IF IT WAS KURZ, HE'D PROBABLY SAY SOMETHING TERRIBLE LIKE

BECAUSE HE CAN'T PARTICIPATE, EVERYONE SHOULD FAIL.

BY MAKING THIS MISSION A SUCCESS.

WE'RE GOING TO BETRAY HIS EXPECTATIONS

IN ORDER TO DISAPPOINT KURZ.

GRIP

GRIP

IN THAT CASE, LET'S DISAPPOINT HIM.

HE'D DEFINITELY NOT WISH FOR OUR OWN SAFETY.

YEAH, HE'D SAY THAT.

MAN, WHAT A TERRIBLE GUY.

IN ORDER TO DISAPPOINT KURZ!!

WHAT WAS THAT OTHER THING YOU HAD TO SAY...

BY THE WAY, WRAITH.

Looks like you've served another purpose besides being a sniper...

TO LET KURZ DOWN, HUH...

ALRIGHT!! GET READY TO GO!!

AFFIRM-ATIVE!!

YOU DON'T SEEM TO LOOK WELL.

THE AIR PRES-SURE IS LOW TOO.

IT'S PROB-ABLY THE WEATH-ER.

WRAITH...?

.....

WHAT'S THAT SUP-POSED TO MEAN?

FORGET IT.

GOOD LUCK!!

FOR-GET ABOUT IT.

NAH, IT'S NOT ANY-THING IMPOR-TANT.

BEL IS BUSY, SO I CAN PASS ON THE MESSAGE.

I DON'T WANT TO RUIN THAT.

YOU'RE ALL IN HIGH SPIRITS.

TEN MINUTES LATER

WHY, YOU SAY...? I DIDN'T HAVE ANY CHOICE!!

ARE YOU HIDING SOME-THING?

YOU WERE ACTING WEIRD BACK THEN TOO,

THAT'S ...

THAT PHONE CALL...

L" n "

pip

JUST WHEN THE TEAM WAS IN A GOOD MOOD, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN RUINED IF I TOLD THEM THE TRUTH!!

YEAH, I DIDN'T TELL THEM.

IF ANYTHING, IT'LL BE BEST IF YOU COULD JUST SHOOT YOURSELF AND DIE.

DON'T DO ANY-THING.

TAKE MY AD-VICE,

ACTUALLY... REGARDING THE OTHER NEWS I HAD TO TELL THEM...

HUH...

SO I GUESS THERE'S NO HARM WITH YOU KNOWING.

WELL, I CAN ONLY SPEAK WITH THEM AFTER THE MISSION...

WHERE TO?

HUNTER.

PIP

I SEE... THAT CERTAINLY WOULD HAVE RUINED THE MOOD..

THERE'S NO WAY THAT I COULD SAY IT... IN A SITUATION LIKE THAT.

PIP

IS THERE A PROBLEM?

WE NOW HAVE THE APPROXIMATE TIME BEFORE THEY DETERMINE THE NUCLEAR LAUNCH CODES.

...I SEE, UNDER-STOOD.

THEY PROBABLY RE-CALCULATED BASED ON INTEL FROM GRU. IT COULD BE EVEN QUICKER.

BUT I HEARD BEFORE THAT IT'D BE AROUND FOUR HOURS!?

WOULD WE BE SAFE IF WE STAY IN THIS COUNTRY-SIDE?

HEY.

SO THEY ONLY HAVE ONE HOUR TO TAKE OVER THE FORTI-FICATION WITHIN THE MOUNTAINS.

IT'LL TAKE TWO HOURS BEFORE

OUR FORCES ARRIVE.

THERE'S LESS THAN THREE HOURS.

LET'S GO.

THAT'S A JOKE,

WE SHOULD MAKE PRE-PARATIONS IN THE EVENT THAT EVERY-THING GOES ACCORDING TO PLAN.

ゴゴゴゴ

ゴゴゴゴ

ゴゴゴゴ

UNDER-GROUND OF MELIDA ISLAND - TARTAROS

It's been non-stop work without any sleep for the past two days, but...

...it's been fun.

By then, I'd say the tuning for control codes would be completed

The construction is pretty much completed

Now just a few hours left for the geo-thermal plant to generate the necessary electricity.

I'll control the fate of humanity and guide us to a new world.

This Tartaros is a revolution against fate.

A world where everyone can be happy.

I'm feeling really tired.

But not sleeping for this long...

AHHH! STOP, STOP!!

Just a bit longer and I can change this world...

Hang in there...

based on a semiconductor lasers,also works
on lases with coated facets.

Electronic semiconducutors are keeping
space with the demands for speed and
selectively distribute different levels of
over common networks has led to the
Systems Security .....anta ha atasi jya nai

Type Type Type

Who...
Who...
Was
that?

I
wrote
that?

I'm
me.

Who
am I
being
angry
with?

SHUT
UP!!

That
unease
I felt
on the
plane
was
the
first
time...

Someone is
criticizing me
and trying to
oppose what
I'm trying
to do...

You're
not me?

It became certain about one month ago.

and went after my body for the first time...

That night Leonard wasn't acting like his usual self

But I felt sorry for his devotion and letting this world finish without ever returning his feelings...

So I decided to accept him...

and I believed that this was correct.

In the past, I rejected him no matter what,

I felt strong anger from something inside me, yet not me.

But something beside my own intention had rejected him.

Leonard didn't even try to touch me.

Ever since then,

I'M GOING TO SLEEP!!

It was me, but it wasn't.

This doubt has lingered on my mind and has continued to trouble me.

I wonder what that was...

...OKAY.

I'm just tired.

Forget it...

Why not enjoy the final rest in this world...

Just rest for an hour.

コオン

SUBMARINES DETECTED.

コオン

コオン

FIFTY MILES FROM MELIDA ISLAND

COORDINATES 086, DISTANCE 18 MILES, COURSE 256, 10 KNOTS.

THERE ARE PROBABLY THREE OTHER UNITS NEARBY.

AND SHIPS AS WELL.

LIKELY THE LOS ANGELES CLASS.

U.S. NAVY WAITING FOR US.

TARGET DESIGNATED AS M5.

WE'RE GOING TO FORCE OUR WAY THROUGH.

In that case...

the Leviathan units are probably waiting at the exits.

Even if I got past the U.S. navy in silence,

AYE AYE MA'AM, ALL TO BATTLE STATION!

EVERYONE TO BATTLE STATIONS!!

TO BE CONTINUED

Postscript
Mission 17


Thank you for your continuous support!
There are only several volumes remaining so I decided to use Sagara and Laevatein fully equipped with XL-3 for the cover picture.
For the serialization, Laevatein will finally be in action so it's going to be a concern (for the manga artists). I've already read the novel and knew that this was going to be inevitable... But...
As we proceed the story towards the final climax, there'll be a number of characters that will leave from this story including a number of deaths. I'll continue to do my best in return for everyone that has continued to support this series.

DRAGON COMICS AGE

ドラゴンコミックスエイジ

フルメタル・パニック！ Σ（シグマ） 17

原作 賀東招二（がとうしょうじ）　作画 上田 宏（うえだ ひろし）　キャラクター原案 四季童子（しきどうじ）

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